

## THE 1996 ELECTIONS AND THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

**S**ince the 1994 elections, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and its sister agency, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), have seen their budgets slashed by nearly 40 percent, in the case of NEH from \$176 million in 1994 to \$110 million in 1996.

At the end of 1996, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to appropriate only \$104.5 million for NEH in 1997, and the Senate Appropriations Committee recommended a level of just \$99.5 million. Election-season realities intervened in the form of a budgetary stalemate and a continuing resolution, and NEH funding was approved at its 1996 level of \$110 million. Twenty-eight million dollars of that appropriation will be apportioned among the state councils, including the California Council for the Humanities (CCH).

### Tea Leaves

What effect the November 1996 elections will have on the intertwined fates of NEH and CCH is at the moment unclear. There have been large-scale changes in the composition of the House and Senate committees charged with overseeing the appropriations and reauthorization process for NEH, and it is still too early in the session to know the positions of these new committee members.

The California congressional delegation now includes a newly-elected Representative who has actually served on the CCH board, Walter Capps (D-Santa Barbara). Other Californians who will be influential in determining the future of NEH and CCH include Senator Barbara Boxer, who was recently appointed to the full Senate Appropriations Committee; and Representatives Frank Riggs (R-Napa) and Randy "Duke" Cunningham (R-Escondido), who are expected to have leadership positions on House committees dealing with the cultural agencies.

The first real indication of what lies in store for NEH may be in the President's budget, due out within the month. Last year, the president requested an appropriation of \$136 million for NEH and wound up signing a continuing resolution omnibus bill that appropriated \$110 million. Some observers believe that if the president proposes anything in the vicinity of the current \$110 million, NEH (and, by extension, CCH) will wind up with an even smaller budget for 1998 than it received for 1997. But if the president proposes more than \$136 million, NEH, which together with NEA accounts for less than two one-hundredths of 1 percent of the federal budget, may see some of its funding restored.

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Of course in an era of divided government, much will also depend on how long a spirit of a bi-partisan-ship prevails in Washington.

### Reauthorization and Appropriations

In any case, NEH faces the same two hurdles it has encountered every year for the last three years: reauthorization and appropriations.

**Reauthorization:** For federal agencies like NEH to continue to exist, Congress must pass reauthorizing legislation every five years. This legislation is separate from the appropriations bills that determine the level of funding for agencies. Authorizing legislation for NEH (and NEA, which is considered in the same bill) expired several years ago; instead a series of so-called "gentlemen's agreements" have allowed to NEH, NEA and other federal agencies to receive appropriations. Representative Ralph Regula (R-OH), who chairs the subcommittee charged with appropriations for NEH, has again said he does not want to include unauthorized agencies in his appropriations bill.

**Appropriations:** Assuming NEH surmounts the reauthorization hurdle, there remains the question of how much the endowment will receive, a matter of critical importance to CCH. Despite long strides in developing financial support among individual Californians, corporations, foundations, and state governmental sources, the Council still relies on its federal partner, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), for more than 80 percent of its funds.

With a balanced federal budget now a priority of both parties and an increased number of congressional representatives who are not convinced the federal government has a role to play in sustaining the cultural life of the nation, funding for NEH is always an open question.

As ever, we hope citizens who have an opinion on this question will stay informed and let their opinions be known to their elected representatives.

## FREE "HIGHWAY 99" POSTER AVAILABLE

**A**fter a hiatus for floods and fog, "Highway 99: A Literary Journey" programs resume in February and March. The first "Highway 99: Writers in Conversation" program of the Spring will be held in Fresno on March 18. It features poet Jean Janzen. Five additional "Writers in Conversation" programs are scheduled for

explore the rich literary heritage of the Great Central Valley. Admission to all of these events is free.

For a free poster containing detailed calendar information about the "Writers in Conversation" programs and contact information for the reading and discussion groups, send a self-addressed, stamped (\$0.55

postage), legal-size (#10) envelope to: "Highway 99 Poster, California Council for the Humanities, 312 Sutter Street, Suite 601, San Francisco, CA 94108).

### HIGHWAY 99: A LITERARY JOURNEY WRITERS IN CONVERSATION

Featuring:  
David Mai Marumoto  
Lawson Fusao Inada  
George Keithley  
Cary Soto  
Jean Janzen



Cary Thompson  
Maureen Hong Kingston  
Ernest J. Flannery  
Richard Rodriguez  
Gerald Haslam

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The California Council for the Humanities is a state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Humanities Network is published quarterly and mailed to anyone who requests it from the San Francisco office.



# Grants Awarded

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS

### Vernon - Central Community History Program

Sponsor: Dunbar Economic Development Corporation, Los Angeles

Project Director: Michael Betz

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

In the decades between the first and second world wars, the Vernon - South Central neighborhood of Los Angeles was an entry point for African Americans arriving in the city. Widely known for its jazz clubs and night life, the neighborhood also supported thriving businesses, active civic institutions, as well as a vibrant community of working families. Held in conjunction with efforts to revitalize the Vernon - Central neighborhood, this multi-faceted project explores themes and issues of community life through a historical exhibition and a series of public programs slated to begin at the Dunbar Hotel in November 1997.

### Spotlight on Six Angelinos: Illuminating History Through Ordinary Lives

Sponsor: Playwrights Project, San Diego

Project Director: Deborah Salzer

Amount of Award: \$9,988 in outright funds

This award supports the creation and production of three performance/discussion programs based on oral histories of elderly Angelinos. Each program will pair dramatic performances about the experiences of Angelinos from different neighborhoods and cultural and ethnic backgrounds, and in an ensuing public discussion, two scholars will lead audience members in an exploration of the historical, social and cultural circumstances that helped shape these personal experiences. Public performances are tentatively scheduled to begin in the Spring of 1997.

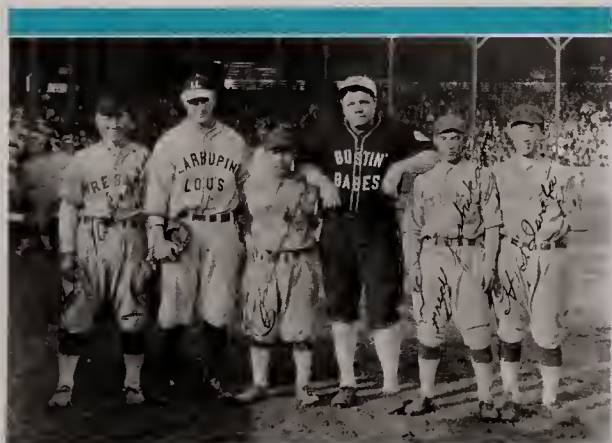
### People and Stories

Sponsor: St. Mary's College of California, Moraga

Project Director: Patricia Steenland

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

This award supports the formation of four humanities based reading-and-discussion groups in such community settings as the Open House Senior Center in El Cerrito and the Asian Women's Center in San Francisco. Led by trained coordinators, the groups will meet in eight weekly sessions to discuss and explore the themes of stories by James Joyce, Yoshiko Uchida, Bernard Malamud, and Gabriel Garcia Marquez, among others. The discussion groups are scheduled to start in March and April of 1997.



From "Diamonds in the Rough." Left to right: Johnny Nakagawa, Lou Gehrig, Kenichi Zenimura, Babe Ruth, Fred Yoshikawa, and Harvey Iwata. Fireman's Park, Fresno, 1927. Courtesy of Kerry Yo Nakagawa, Nisei Baseball Research Project.



From "Ocean View." "Headstand" from Larry Silver's 1954 Muscle Beach Series. Image courtesy of the California Museum of Photography.

### Ocean View

Sponsor: California Museum of Photography, Riverside

Project Director: Kevin Jon Boyle

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

Sun, sand, and surf have long been defining elements of the California Dream. Popularized in literature, music, film, television, and advertising, images of California's beach lifestyle have drawn millions of new residents to the state and have influenced the dreams of countless others worldwide. Drawing on a nearly 100-year photographic record, this exhibit of photographic prints, journals and related video works will investigate the evolution of the visual construction of this widespread portrayal of Southern California life, exploring its myths and realities, its usefulness to the state's businesses and industry, and its impact on the coastal environment. Accompanying interpretive wall texts, humanities essays and programs will provide additional opportunities to explore themes of the exhibit. The exhibit is scheduled to open in June.

### Diamonds in the Rough: Japanese Americans in Baseball

Sponsor: National Japanese American Historical Society, San Francisco

Project Director: Gary Otake

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds

This award supports the creation of a traveling exhibition of rare photographs, personal artifacts and historical documents about the history of Japanese Americans in baseball. Beginning with the formation of teams in the early years of the century, continuing through the golden years of the 1920s and 1930s and the years of internment during World War II, and ending with a look at the contemporary resurgence of Japanese American baseball, the exhibit also examines broader historical, social and cultural issues that shaped and continue to shape the Japanese American experience. The exhibit is scheduled to open in Sacramento on April 1 (see newsletter calendar for details), and to travel to San Francisco later this fall.

### Memory and Imagination: The Legacy of Maidu Indian Artist Frank Day

Sponsor: The Oakland Museum of California

Project Director: Carey Caldwell

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds  
Frank Day (1902-1976) was a Konkow Maidu self-taught artist who played a major role in the preservation and revitalization of Maidu dance, folklore and visual art in California during the 1960s and 1970s. The Oakland Museum's traveling exhibition of 55 of Day's finest paintings, historical photographs, Maidu artifacts, and the works of contemporary artists influenced by Day is intended to bring this important but relatively unknown Native American artist to a wider public. In conjunction with the exhibition, a series of public programs will examine a number of issues related to Day's work—questions concerning the nature of "tradition" in American Indian art, the dynamics of cultural representation, and the connections between historic and contemporary native cultures, for example. The exhibition opens in Oakland on March 15 (see calendar) and travels eventually to Sante Fe and Phoenix. The public programs are slated to begin in the Spring.

### Charles F. Lummis Chautauqua Presentations and Complementary Reading Groups

Sponsor: Heritage Square Museum, Pasadena

Project Director: Larry Horne

Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds  
Charles Fletcher Lummis (1859-1928) was a leading figure in the cultural life of Southern California. A noted journalist, editor, and accomplished writer, he was a prominent figure in the boosterism that developed Southern California and its citrus industry and an ardent promoter of the region, whose efforts led to a surge in immigration from the Midwest. Lummis also made contributions as a photographer, musicologist, curator and founder of the Southwest Museum. This award supports a collaborative project to create a series of reading-and-discussion programs and chautauqua presentations about Lummis and the cultural, social, and economic development of Southern California. Programs are scheduled to begin in late July of 1997.



From the "Charles F. Lummis Chautauqua." Charles F. Lummis, 1889. Photo courtesy of the Southwest Museum.



# Grants Awarded

## Border Voices Four: Quality and the Construction of Identity in the American Arts

Sponsor: San Diego State University  
Project Director: Paul Strand/Jack Webb  
Amount of Award: \$6,000 in matching funds if \$12,000 is raised in outside gifts

Culminating in a major poetry fair in San Diego on April 12, the fourth annual Border Voices project includes a series of public humanities lectures exploring such themes as the relationship between television, popular culture and cultural identities and the relationship of poets and poetry to contemporary politics and society. The series concludes with a symposium held in conjunction with the poetry fair that will explore contemporary issues of quality and identity in scholarly and artistic works and will include such scholars and writers as U.S. poet laureate Robert Hass, June Jordan, and Sandra Cisneros, among others.



From "Border Voices." Lê Thi Diem Thúy, Vietnamese American poet and performance artist is one of the poetry fair symposium participants on April 12. Photo by Rebecca Kiger, courtesy of Jack Webb.

## KPFA On the Air

Sponsor: Film Arts Foundation, San Francisco  
Project Director: Veronica Selver  
Amount of Award: \$20,000 in matching funds if \$40,000 is raised in outside gifts

This one-hour video documentary examines the history of the oldest listener-sponsored FM radio station in the United States. Founded during World War II by conscientious objectors as a site for pacifist dialog, KPFA evolved over the years from a center for dissent during the McCarthy era of the Cold War, to a haven for experimentation in the 1960s and 1970s, to a catalyst for multicultural programming today. The film will explore the explosive internal clashes that have wracked the radio station and the light this history sheds on issues of community, dissent and diversity.

## Against the Tide

Sponsor: Paradigm Productions, Inc., San Francisco

Project Director: Judith Erhlich  
Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds  
Drawing on the disciplines of history, ethics, religious studies, ethnic studies and literature and philosophy, this script for a television documentary will explore the experiences of conscientious objectors in California during World War II. Plans call for the film to focus on issues of democracy and dissent, explore the particular moral dilemma of pacifists who refused to fight in the "good" war against facism and nazism, and trace the effects of these conscientious objectors on the state's cultural and political institutions and their influence on the social movements of the 1960s.

## M E D I A P R O J E C T S

## Aldous Huxley in California: A Radio Documentary

Sponsor: Department of English, University of New Mexico  
Project Director: Bruce Marron  
Amount of Award: \$9812 in outright funds  
Though millions have read Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, few realize that the British-born writer spent the last third of his life in California working as a screen writer (from 1937 until 1963). During that time, Huxley also wrote such enduring major works as *After Many a Summer Dies the Swan* and *Ape and Essence*. This one-hour radio documentary will draw on radio dramatizations of Huxley's work, the recorded recollections of such contemporaries as Christopher Isherwood, and the commentary of contemporary artists and scholars to explore the themes and values of Huxley's literary output and to examine how Huxley's life in California shaped the works he wrote.

## Hammering It Out: Women in the Construction Zone

Sponsor: Southern California Library for Social Research, Los Angeles  
Project Director: Vivian Price  
Amount of Award: \$20,000 in matching funds if \$40,000 is raised in outside gifts

Using interviews with women construction workers, union members, contractors, and government officials, this documentary explores the historical background, as well as the personal, political, social and economic effects of the Century Freeway project, which became one of the biggest jobs for women construction workers in U.S. history. The project will also examine the pivotal nature of the historic consent decree that shaped the project and its relationship to social movements and philosophies that have produced other experiments in social engineering.

## Voices of the Heart (formerly Capture the Muse)

Sponsor: Families Learning Together, San Francisco  
Project Director: Pamela May  
Amount of Award: \$20,000 in matching funds if \$40,000 is raised in outside gifts

With Rita Dove and Danny Glover as storyteller/guides, this two-hour television documentary program for family viewing explores the rich oral traditions of poetry and storytelling that underlie daily life in America. The program also seeks to deepen our understanding of poetry and its relationship to human experience by examining the connections between language and rhythm and by tracing the different cultural strands of poetry and storytelling that make up the contemporary weave of language. Among the scholars and artists participating in this project are Poet Laureate Robert Hass, UC Berkeley professor of anthropology and folklore Alan Dundes, poets Genny Lim, Gary Snyder, and Janice Mirikitani, and novelist Al Young.



From "Ancestors: Pioneers to the American West."

## Ancestors: Pioneers to the American West

Sponsor: The Center for Educational Telecommunications, San Francisco  
Project Director: Loni Ding  
Amount of Award: \$10,000 in outright funds and \$10,000 in matching funds if \$20,000 is raised in outside gifts

This award supports post-production for "Pioneers to the American West," the second one-hour program in the four-part television documentary series, "Ancestors in America." Using a "documemoir" approach that mixes personal accounts, archival images and documents, and archeological evidence, "Ancestors" investigates the experiences of Asians in America over the last 150 years, focusing particularly on the experiences of the Chinese in America. The "Pioneers" segment reveals the lives and communities of the early 19th-century Chinese laborers who built the roads, railroads and much of the agricultural infrastructure of the western states. The "Ancestors" series is being made for broadcast over PBS.



# IS SCIENCE MULTICULTURAL? CHALLENGES, RESOURCES, OPPORTUNITIES,

by Sandra Harding

Supported by a minigrant from the Council, Pasadena City College's "Intersections: The Search for Common Ground" lecture series is exploring issues related to cultural pluralism and diversity, especially as these trends affect our re-imagining of the California and American dreams.

In the first of the "Intersections" lectures, Dr. Sandra Harding examined the difficult questions of just how free the natural sciences are from the imprint of the culture in which they developed and whether our assumptions about modern science prevent us from benefiting from non-Western knowledge traditions.

Professor Harding's talk was based largely on her 1994 article — "Is Science Multicultural? Challenges, Resources, Opportunities, Uncertainties" — which appeared in the journal *Configurations* (vol. 2: pp. 301-330). To provide readers with some sense of the issues Harding raises, we offer an edited excerpt from the first half of her *Configurations* article (with thanks to the Johns Hopkins University Press and the Society for Literature and Science for permission to quote).

Sandra Harding is professor of philosophy at the University of Delaware and adjunct professor of philosophy and women's studies at UCLA. She most recently edited the book, *The "Racial" Economy of Science: Toward a Democratic Future* (Indiana University Press, 1993), which received the Critics' Choice Award of the American Educational Studies Association. In 1990 she was named Woman Philosopher of the Year by the Eastern Society for Women in Philosophy.

**A**re the natural sciences multicultural? Could they and should they be? Such questions initially may seem ignorant, or at least odd, since it is exactly the lack of cultural fingerprints that conventionally is held responsible for the great successes of the sciences. The sciences "work," they are universally valid, it is said, because they transcend culture. They can tell us how nature really functions rather than merely how the British, Native Americans, or Chinese fear or want it to work.

There are good reasons to wonder whether one should regard this "universal science" claim as ending the matter, however. Multicultural perspectives are providing more comprehensive and less distorted understandings of history, literature, the arts, and the social sciences, and they are beginning to reshape public consciousness as they are disseminated through television specials, new elementary and high-school history and literature textbooks, and, indeed, daily news reports of perspectives on the West that conflict with the conventional beliefs that many Westerners now understand to be Eurocentric. Do the challenges raised by multicultural perspectives in other

fields have no consequences for the natural sciences?

Now is none too soon to note that the terms of this discussion are and must be controversial, for whoever gets to name natural and social realities gets to control how they will be organized. How "Western" is Western science anyway? Which of the diverse peoples currently living in Europe and North America get to count as Western? Is Japan "non-Western" and "Third World"? Additionally, Third World cultures are immensely diverse, and they are

prints from their results of research—incorporates some assumptions that are probably false, or that at least have not been supported by evidence. For example, it assumes that no other sciences could generate the laws of gravity, or antibiotics; that modern science does not also "work" for producing human and natural disasters; that what has worked best to advance the West will and should work best to advance other societies; that modern sciences are the best ones for discovering all of the laws of nature; and that the

preserved but also developed in Islamic culture, to be claimed by the sciences of the European Renaissance.<sup>4</sup>

Some knowledge traditions that were appropriated and fully integrated into modern sciences are not acknowledged at all. Thus the principles of pre-Columbian agriculture which provided potatoes for almost every European ecological niche and thereby had a powerful effect on the nutrition and subsequent history of Europe, were subsumed into European science.<sup>5</sup> Mathematical achievements from India and Arabic cultures provide other examples. The magnetic needle, the rudder, gunpowder, and many other technologies useful to Europeans and the advance of their sciences were borrowed from China. Knowledge of local geographies, geologies, animals, plants, medicines, agriculture, navigational techniques, and local cultures that formed significant parts of European sciences' picture of nature were provided in part by the knowledge traditions of non-Europeans.

Thus modern science already is multicultural, at least in the sense that elements of the knowledge traditions of many different non-European cultures have been incorporated into it. There is nothing unusual about such scientific borrowing: it is evident in the ordinary, everyday borrowing that occurs when scientists revive models, metaphors, procedures, technologies, or other ideas from older European scientific traditions, or when they borrow such elements from the culture outside their laboratories and field stations, or from other contemporary sciences.<sup>6</sup> After all, a major point of professional conferences and international exchange programs, not to mention "keeping up with the literature," is to permit everyone to borrow everyone else's achievements. Without such possibilities, sciences wither and lose their creativity. What is at issue here is only the Eurocentric failure to acknowledge the origins and importance to "real science" of these borrowings from non-European cultures, thereby trivializing the achievements of other scientific traditions.

To give up this piece of Eurocentrism does not challenge the obvious accomplishments of modern sciences. Every thinking person should be able to accept the claim that modern science is multicultural in this sense.

There are implications here also for philosophies and social studies of science. For example, the standard contrast of the objectivity, rationality, and progressiveness of modern scientific thought vs. the only-locally-valid, irrational, and backward or primitive thought of other cultures begins to seem less explanatorily useful and, indeed, less accurate after the postcolonial accounts. Whether overtly stated

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internally heterogeneous by class, gender, ethnicity, religion, politics, and other features. Does ignoring or marginalizing these differences not disseminate characteristic Eurocentric tendencies to homogenize, and to refuse to think carefully about, peoples that Westerners have constructed as their Others? Finally, should the knowledge traditions of non-Western cultures be referred to as "sciences" rather than only as "ethnoscience"?

We cannot easily settle such questions. In some cases, it is the familiar languages that are at issue. In other cases, less-controversial terms have not yet been found or have not yet reached general circulation. Moreover, changing language sometimes advances the growth of knowledge—but in other cases it simply substitutes an acceptable veneer under which ignorance and exploitative politics can continue to flourish.

One term worth clarifying, however, is "Eurocentrism." Here I refer to a cluster of assumptions, central among which are that peoples of European descent, their institutions, practices, and conceptual schemes, express the unique heights of human development, and that Europeans and their civilization are fundamentally self-generated, owing little or nothing to the institutions, practices, conceptual schemes, or peoples of other parts of the world.<sup>1</sup> If Western sciences and science studies turn out to be Eurocentric, we are likely to discover possibilities of multiculturalism in the natural sciences that have been hidden from view.

The universal science view—that modern sciences are uniquely successful exactly because they have eliminated cultural finger-

kinds of projects for which modern sciences have worked best in the past are the ones at which any possible sciences—past, present, and future—should want to succeed. Yet in spite of these problematic assumptions, the conventional view contains important insights. Such insights are more reasonably explained, however, in ways that give up these problematic assumptions and locate modern sciences on the more accurate historical and geographical maps produced by the postcolonial accounts.<sup>2</sup>

Let us turn to the questions that will help to determine the degree to which science may be multicultural.

## Does Modern Science Have non-Western Origins?

The least controversial response is to acknowledge that modern sciences have borrowed from other cultures. Most people are aware of at least a couple of such examples. However, the borrowings have been far more extensive and important than the conventional histories reveal. Modern sciences have been enriched by contributions not only from the so-called complex cultures of China, India, and other east Asian and Islamic societies, but also from the so-called simpler ones of Africa, the pre-Columbian Americas, and others that interacted with the expansion of European cultures.

To list just a few examples: Egyptian mystical philosophies and premodern European alchemical traditions were far more useful to the development of sciences in Europe than is suggested by the conventional view that these are only irrational and marginally valuable elements of immature Western sciences.<sup>3</sup> The Greek legacy of scientific and mathematical thought was not only fortuitously



or only discreetly assumed, such contrasts damage our ability not only to appreciate the strengths of other scientific traditions, but also to grasp what are the real strengths and limitations of modern sciences.

## Have There Been or Could There Be Other Culturally Distinctive Sciences That "Work"?

Do any other knowledge traditions deserve to be called science? The conventional view is that only modern sciences are entitled this designation. In such an account, science is treated as a culture emergent in early modern Europe. While a shift in social conditions may have made it possible in the first place, what emerged was a form of knowledge-seeking that is fundamentally self-generating; its "internal logic" is responsible for its great successes. This "logic of scientific research" has been characterized in various ways—as inductivism, crucial experiments, the hypothetico-deduction method, or a cycle of normal science-revolution-normal science.

Whatever the logic attributed to scientific research, it is conceptualized as "inside" science, and not "outside" it "in society." Though Chinese or African astronomers may have made discoveries before Europeans, this is not sufficient to indicate that the former were really doing what is reasonably regarded as "science."<sup>7</sup> Thus when science is said to need a supportive social climate in order to flourish, the particular form of that climate is claimed to leave no distinctive cultural fingerprints on science's results of research.

Is this a reasonable position? Is the content of the successes modern sciences due entirely to the sciences' "internal" features? For one thing, not all of the successes attributed to Western science are unique to it. In many cases, "what has been ascribed to the European tradition has been shown on closer examination to have been done elsewhere by others earlier. (Thus Harvey was not the first to discover the circulation of blood, but an Arabic scientist was; Paracelsus did not introduce the fourth element 'salt' and start the march towards modern chemistry, but a twelfth-century alchemist from Kerala did so teaching in Saudi Arabia.)"<sup>8</sup>

Joseph Needham points out that "between the first century and fifteenth century A.D. Chinese civilization was much more efficient than the occidental in applying human natural knowledge to practical human needs....in many ways this was much more congruent with modern science than was the world outlook of Christendom."<sup>9</sup>

Thus other knowledge traditions "worked" at projects that Western sciences could accomplish only much later. If the achievements of modern science should be attributed to its "internal logic," then

evidently this logic is not unique to it.

This brings us to a second point: Nobody has discovered an eleventh commandment handed down from the heavens specifying what may and may not be counted as a science. Obviously the project of drawing a line between science and nonscience is undertaken because it emphasizes a contrast thought to be important. Belief in the reality of this demarcation, as in the reality of the science vs. pseudo-science duality, is necessary in order to preserve the

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mystique of the uniqueness and purity of the West's knowledge-seeking. Thus the sciences, as well as the philosophies that are focused on describing and explaining the kind of rationality so highly valued in the modern West, have been partners with anthropology in maintaining a whole series of Eurocentric contrasts—whether or not individual scientists, philosophers, or anthropologists so intended. The self-image of the West depends on contrasts, not only between the rational and irrational, but also between civilization and the savage or primitive, the advanced or progressive and the backward, dynamic and static societies, developed and undeveloped, the historical and the natural, the rational and the irrational. Through these and other contrasts the European Self has constructed its Other, and has thereby justified its exploitative treatment of various peoples.<sup>10</sup>

My point here is that even though there clearly are obvious and large differences between modern sciences and the traditions of seeking systematic knowledge of the natural world to be found in other cultures, it is useful to think of them all as sciences in order to gain a more objective understanding of the causes of Western successes, the achievements of other sciences, and possible directions for future local and global sciences.<sup>11</sup>

One cannot avoid noticing, moreover, that there is no general agreement, even among the most distinguished and progressive Western science theorists, about the distinctive causes of modern science, and that the search for such an explanation and the kinds of accounts on which such scholars settle usually remain tied to Eurocentric dualisms.

A third source of skepticism about conventional claims for the unique efficacy of Western sciences arises from an often-repeated argument in the postcolonial accounts: European sciences advanced because they focused on describing and explaining those aspects of nature's regularities that permitted the upper classes of Europeans to multiply and thrive, especially through the prospering of their military, imperial, and otherwise expansionist projects.

Interestingly, evidence for this claim can now easily be gathered

from many of the museum exhibits and scholarly publications associated with the 1992 quincentennial of the Columbian encounter, which drew attention, intentionally or not, to the numerous ways European expansion in the Americas advanced European sciences. Nor is the intimate relation between scientific advance in the West and expansionist efforts a matter only of the distant past (or only of expansion into foreign lands): by the end of World War II, the development of U.S. physics had been virtually entirely handed over to the direction of U.S. militarism and nationalism, as historian Paul Forman has shown in detail.<sup>12</sup>

Thus European expansionism has changed the "topography" of global scientific knowledge, causing the advance of European sciences and the decline or underdevelopment of scientific traditions of other cultures.

These arguments begin to challenge the idea that the causes of modern science's achievements are to be located entirely in their purported inherently transcultural character. It turns out that what makes them "work" (and appear uniquely to do so) is at least partly their focus on kinds of projects that European expansion could both advance and benefit from while simultaneously clearing the field of potentially rival scientific traditions.

This is not to deny that Western sciences can claim many great and, so far, unique scientific achievements. Instead, it is to argue, contrary to conventional views, that scientific "truths," no less than false beliefs, are caused by social relations as well as by nature's regularities and the operations of reason.<sup>13</sup>

## Notes

1. See, e.g., Samir Amin, *Eurocentrism* (New York: Monthly Review Press, 1989).
2. I am tempted to keep inserting "Western" into "modern science"—modern Western science—to avoid the standard Eurocentric assumption that non-Western traditions, including scientific practices and cultures are static; that only Western sciences are dynamic and thus only they have developed since the fifteenth century. However, that locution has other problems: it emphasizes the dualistic "West vs. the rest" framework; it ignores the non-Western components of modern science; etc.
3. See Frances Yates, *Giordano Bruno and the Hermetic Tradition* (New York: Vintage, 1969).
4. Donald F. Lach, *Asia in the Making of Europe*, vol. 2 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1977); Seyyed Hossein Nasr, "Islamic Science, Western Science: Common Heritage, Diverse Destinies," in Z. Sardar, ed., *Revenge of Athena: Science, Exploitation and the Third World* (London: Mansell, 1988).
5. Jack Weatherford, *Indian Givers: What the Native Americans Gave to the World* (New York: Crown, 1988).
6. Susantha Goonatilake makes this point in "The Voyages of Discovery and the Loss and Re-Discovery of 'Other's' Knowledge," *Impact of Science on Society* 167 (1993): 241-264.
7. For one thing, Westerners note that Chinese or African astronomy is done within culturally local projects of a sort devalued by scientific rationality, such as (in some cases) astrology, or culturally local meanings of the heavens or other natural phenomenon. So, whatever their accuracy, such astronomical discoveries could not be admitted as "real science" without permitting the possibility of assigning such a status also to astrology or Confucian religious beliefs. Alternatively, one could say that only those discoveries of other cultures that are duplicated by Western science count as scientific; this has the paradoxical consequence that as Western sciences develop, other cultures also (retroactively!) get more scientific. Nancy Brickhouse's questions helped me to clarify this point.
8. Susantha Goonatilake, "A Project for Our Times," in Sardar, *Revenge of Athena* (above, n.4) p.226.
9. Joseph Needham, *The Grand Titration: Science and Society in East and West* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1969), pp. 55-56.
10. See, e.g., Susan Bordo, *The Flight of Objectivity* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1987); Genevieve Lloyd, *The Man of Reason* (University of Minnesota Press, 1984).
11. See Needham's discussion of seven conceptual errors in standard Western thought about "universal science" that lead to erroneous devaluations of the scientific achievements of non-European sciences, in *Grand Titration* (above, n.9).
12. Paul Forman, "Behind Quantum Electronics: National Security as Basis for Physical Research in the U.S., 1940-1960," *Historical Studies in Physical and Biological Sciences*, 18 (1987): pp. 149-229.
13. The "Strong Programme" in the sociology of knowledge has developed this analysis. See, e.g., David Bloor, *Knowledge and Social Imagery* (London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1977).



## WINTER Calendar

The public humanities programs listed on these two pages were either created or supported by the California Council for the Humanities. Please note that dates and times should be confirmed with the local sponsors. These listings are often provided to CCH well before final arrangements are made.

Please also check the monthly calendar listings on the Council's world wide web pages at <http://www.calhum.org/>.

### EXHIBITS

**Through Feb. 9** "Gum San: Land of the Golden Mountain" is a CERA-sponsored exhibit of artifacts, historical photographs and other documents exploring the presence and importance of the Chinese in the region's history. At the Redding Museum of Art & History, 56 Quartz Hill Road, Caldwell Park, Redding. Please call 916/243-8801 for more information.

**Through Mar. 30** "Between Two Worlds: The People of the Border" is a CERA-sponsored exhibit of photographs by Don Bartletti exploring perspectives on border life and migration. At the Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County, 1333 Butte House Road, Yuba City. Please call 916/741-7141 for more information.

**Through Mar. 30** "Jose Guadalupe Posada: Mexican Printmaker" is a California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA)-sponsored exhibit of the 19th century social and political satirist's graphic art. At the Redding Museum of Art & History, 56 Quartz Hill Road, Caldwell Park, Redding. Please call 916/243-8801 for more information.

**Through Mar. 30** "Photography and the Old West" is a CERA-sponsored exhibition of historical photographs by 19th and 20th century photographers, many of whom came west to record official government geographical and geological explorations and, later, the development of the railroads and other commercial enterprises. At the California State Capitol Museum, State Capitol, Room B-27, Sacramento. 916/324-0312.



From "Isn't S/He a Doll?" Dolls made by the Bamum peoples of Cameroon. Photo by Denis Nervig, courtesy of the Fowler Museum.

**Through Aug. 24** "Isn't S/He a Doll? Play and Ritual in African Sculpture" is a comprehensive exhibition surveying 200 works from 24 African countries and exploring the functions of African figurines, or dolls, as playthings, ritual objects for ceremonies of initiation, marriage, fertility and death, and as collectors' items. UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, UCLA campus, Los Angeles. 310/825-4361.

**Feb. 18 - May 11** "Gum San: Land of the Golden Mountain" is a CERA-sponsored exhibit of artifacts, historical photographs and other documents exploring the presence and importance of the Chinese in the region's history. At the Healdsburg Museum, 221 Matheson Street, Healdsburg. 707/431-3325.

**Feb. 26 - Apr. 5** "Mary Ellen Pleasant: Mother of Civil Rights in California" is an exhibition of archival photographs about the life of Mary Ellen Pleasant (b. 1817), who escaped from slavery, came to San Francisco during the Gold Rush, and later became a powerful advocate for civil rights. San Francisco Art Commission Gallery, 401 Van Ness Ave. 415/554-6080.

**Mar. 15 - July 20** "Memory and Imagination: The Legacy of Maidu Indian Artist Frank Day" is an exhibition featuring more than 50 paintings by self-taught Konkow Maidu artist Frank Day (1902-1976), who played a major role in the revitalization of Native American ceremonialism in Northern California. At the Oakland Museum, 1000 Oak Street, Oakland. 510/238-2200.

**Apr. 1 - Apr. 30** "Stockton: An Historically Diverse Community" is an exhibition of historical photographs of ethnic groups in early Stockton, with accompanying interpretive labels and documents about Stockton's ethnic diversity. The project complements the Council's Stockton "Highway 99: Writers in Conversation" program (Apr. 5). William Knox Holt Memorial Library, University of the Pacific, 3601 Pacific Avenue, Stockton. Contact Ms. Daryl Morrison at 209/946-2434 for more information.

**Apr. 1 - Aug. 3** "Diamonds in the Rough: Japanese Americans in Baseball" is a traveling exhibit of rare photographs, personal artifacts, and historical documents about Japanese Americans in baseball. California State Capitol Museum, State Capitol, Room B-27, Sacramento. 916/324-0312.

**Apr. 4 - June 29** "Between Two Worlds: The People of the Border" is a CERA-sponsored exhibit of photographs by Don Bartletti exploring perspectives on border life and migration. At the Napa Valley Museum, 473 Main Street, St. Helena. 707/963-7411.



From the "Between Two Worlds" exhibit. "GLADIOLA HARVEST, Encinitas, California, October 7, 1987; José Velasquez carries an armload of gladiola buds at an Encinitas flower ranch. A perfect climate, imported water, fertilizer, and high-tech farming make the earth bloom, but little is done for the foreign-born laborer.

Velasquez lives in a primitive sleeping shelter on the edge of the field." Photo by Don Bartletti.

**Apr. 5 - June 8** "Jose Guadalupe Posada: Mexican Printmaker" is a California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA)-sponsored exhibit of the 19th century social and political satirist's graphic art. At the Redding Museum of Art & History, 56 Quartz Hill Road, Caldwell Park, Redding. Please call 916/243-8801 for more information.





Photographs like William Henry Jackson's image of the high bridge in the Colorado Central R.R. Georgetown Loop are in the "Photography and the Old West" exhibit. Courtesy of Peter E. Palmquist.

**Apr. 25 - Aug. 15** "Photography and the Old West" is a CERA-sponsored exhibition of historical photographs by 19th and 20th century photographers, many of whom came west to record official government geographical and geological explorations and, later, the development of the railroads and other commercial enterprises. At the California State Capitol Museum, State Capitol, Room B-27, Sacramento. 916/324-0312.

## E V E N T S

**Feb. 2** "Interlaced Traditions" is a panel discussion led by prominent textile scholars and artists about the influence of ethnic and historical textiles on contemporary Bay Area textile designers. Organized in conjunction with the exhibition "A Year of Cloth" on view at the Pheobe Hearst Museum of Anthropology at UC Berkeley. Contact 510/642-3683 for time and precise location.

**Feb. 3** "A Lecture on Haiti" features Dr. Leslie Desmangles, president of the Association of Haitian Scholars and head of the religion department at Trinity College in Connecticut, speaking about the history of Haiti. Noon. At Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC), 1501 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa. And again at 7:30 p.m. at the SRJC Petaluma campus. Contact Roberta Dunham at 707/527-4372.

**Feb. 6** UC Santa Barbara historian William Bullough presents an illustrated lecture about Ventura as seen through the lens of photographer John Calvin Brewster. Part of a lecture series coinciding with the opening of a new permanent historical exhibit, "Ventura County in the New West." 7:30 p.m. Ventura County Museum of History & Art, 100 East Main St. Ventura. 805/653-0323

**Feb. 7** "Voices of Cornucopia: The Perspective from Highway 99" is a reading and discussion program about the literature of the Central Valley. Held in conjunction with the California Studies Conference IX, "Cornucopia and its Discontents." At San Francisco State University. For exact program times and location, contact Jeff Lustig at 916/278-7090.

**Feb. 7** "Sounder" will be screened, followed by a discussion led by Dr. Carlene Smith, psychologist at CSU San Marcos, as part of the "African American Film and Family" program. 6 p.m. Library, CSU San Marcos. 619/750-4082.

**Feb. 10** "The Library of the History of Slavery" is a lecture by Judith Thorn, adjunct instructor of humanities at SRJC, about a Haitian university library dedicated to the history of slavery and the Caribbean. Noon. At Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC), 1501 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa. And again at 7:30 p.m. at the SRJC Petaluma campus. Contact Roberta Dunham at 707/527-4372.

**Feb. 11** "The Men Who Sailed the Liberty Ships" is a film and discussion program led by Dr. Morgiana Halley, maritime ethnographer and folklorist, about the lives and work of the men who sailed merchant vessels for the Allies during World War II. Part of the "Celebrating California on Film" series. 7 p.m. Ventura County Maritime Museum, 2731 S. Victoria Avenue, Oxnard. 805/984-6260.



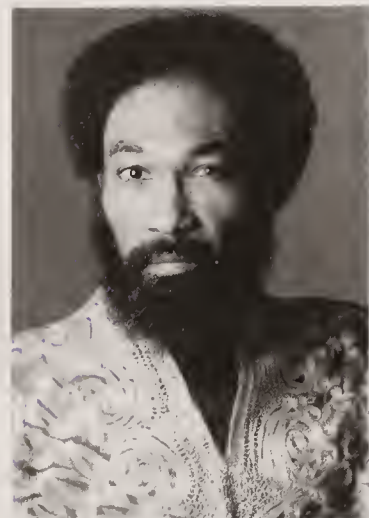
Crew of a World War II liberty ship. From "The Men Who Sailed the Liberty Ships."

**Feb. 13** "Vanishing Point: Urban Indian" is a lecture by Wendy Rose, poet and coordinator of American Indian studies at Fresno City College, about the struggle to "undo bad teachings," as well as to embrace the teachings of elders to achieve a sense of being in the natural world. 7 p.m. Fleischmann Auditorium, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta del Sol Road. 805/682-4711.

**Feb. 14** "The Wiz" will be screened, followed by a discussion led by Dr. Sharon Elise, associate professor of sociology at CSU San Marcos, as part of the "African American Film and Family" program. 6 p.m. Library, CSU San Marcos. 619/750-4082.

**Feb. 14** "Malcolm X Speaks" is a chautauqua portrayal of Malcolm X by Charles Pace, professor of African American studies at Centre College. 7 p.m. California Afro-American Museum, 600 State Drive, Exposition Park, Los Angeles. 213/744-7432.

**Feb. 15** "A Conversation with W.E.B. DuBois" is a chautauqua portrayal by Charles Pace, professor of African American studies at Centre College. Noon. Jackie Robinson Center, Pasadena. 818/795-4351.



Charles Pace.

**Feb. 15** "Malcolm X Speaks" is a chautauqua portrayal of Malcolm X by Charles Pace, professor of African American studies at Centre College. 4 p.m. Pasadena Public Library auditorium. 818/795-4351.

**Feb. 16** "A Conversation with W.E.B. DuBois" is a chautauqua portrayal by Charles Pace, professor of African American studies at Centre College. 2 p.m. California Afro-American Museum, 600 State Drive, Exposition Park, Los Angeles. 213/744-7432.

**Feb. 20** Judith Triem will discuss the historic landscape and architecture of the Santa Clara River Valley, an agricultural region running through the heart of Ventura County. Part of the "Ventura County in the New West" lecture series. 7:30 p.m. Ventura County Museum of History & Art, 100 East Main St. Ventura. 805/653-0323.

**Feb. 20** "Ethnic Notions," a film tracing the history of ethnic stereotypes in America, will be screened and followed by a discussion led by Dr. Sandra Kamusikiri. 7 p.m. Beaumont Library, 125 East 8th Street, Beaumont. 909/845-1357.



From "Ethnic Notions." Photograph courtesy of California Newsreel.



# HUMANITIES Calendar

## E V E N T S

**Feb. 2** "Sarafina!" will be screened, followed by a discussion led by Dr. Carlene Smith, psychologist at CSU San Marcos, as part of the "African American Film and Family" program. 6 p.m. Library, CSU San Marcos. 619/750-4082 for more information.

**Feb. 25** "Wild by Law: Aldo Leopold, Bob Marshall, Howard Zahniser & the Redefinition of American Progress" is a film and discussion program led by Dr. Michael McGinnis, UC Santa Barbara Interdisciplinary Humanities Center fellow, about the men responsible for the creation of the Wilderness Act. Part of the "Celebrating California on Film" series. 7 p.m. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta Del Sol. 805/682-4711.

**Feb. 26** "City of Quartz: Los Angeles Moves Toward the Millenium" is a lecture by Mike Davis, Regents' Lecturer at UC Irvine and author of City of Quartz. Part of the "Intersections: The Search For Common Ground," lecture series. 7 p.m. Creveling Lounge, Campus Center, Pasadena City College campus, 1570 E. Colorado Blvd. Contact Lou Rosenberg at 818/585-7647.

**Feb. 27** "Television and the Crisis of American Identity" is a lecture/discussion in the "Border Voices: New Voices in the Humanities" series featuring Robert Vianelo, associate professor of film and television at CSU Los Angeles. 7 p.m. Scripps Ranch High School, 10410 Trenea Street, San Diego. 619/621-9020.

**Feb. 28** "Hoop Dreams" will be screened, followed by a discussion led by Dr. Edward Thompson, associate professor of political science at CSU San Marcos, as part of the "African American Film and Family" program. 6 p.m. Library, CSU San Marcos. 619/750-4082 for more information.

**Mar. 1** "Afghan Music and Culture" is a panel discussion and demonstration about Afghan music and the culture that produced the music led by scholars Sher Ahmad, Dr. Lloyd Miller, and Katherine St. John. International Refugee Tutorial Services, 3909 Washington Blvd., Suite 208, Fremont. 510/651-5894.

**Mar. 1** "Meet Mary Pleasant" is a chautauqua performance by Susheel Bibbs as Mary Ellen Pleasant (1817-1904), the early San Francisco civil rights activist. Koret Auditorium, San Francisco Main Library. Contact Laura Lent at 415/557-4595.



From "The Wilderness Idea." Theodore Roosevelt poses with conservationist and Sierra Club founder John Muir in Yosemite National Park. Photograph courtesy of Direct Cinema.

**Mar. 4** "The Wilderness Idea: John Muir, Gifford Pinchot and the First Great Battle for the Wilderness" is a film and discussion program led by Dr. Greg Graves, UC Santa Barbara historian, about the early battle over the Hetch Hetchy valley in Yosemite National Park. Part of the "Celebrating California on Film" series. 7 p.m. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta Del Sol. 805/682-4711.

**Mar. 6** Margo McBane, doctoral candidate in history at UCLA, will discuss the complicated history of the citrus industry and Limoneira Ranch of Santa Paula. Part the "Ventura County in the New West" lecture series. 7:30 p.m. Ventura County Museum of History & Art, 100 East Main St. Ventura. 805/653-0323

**Mar. 8** "California Sesquicentennial: An Indian Perspective" is a symposium exploring the impact of the foundational events of California statehood on Native peoples. Panelists include Native artists Jean LaMarr, Judith Lowery, Frank Tuttle, as well as Malcolm Margolin, Katherine Stevenot, and Linda Yamane. Held in conjunction with an exhibition of contemporary Native art. 1 p.m. Pajaro Valley Arts Council, Watsonville. For exact location, contact 408/722-3062.

**Mar. 11** "The Origins of Scandinavian Cinema" is a lecture and discussion led by Professor Mark Sanberg, Department of Scandinavian Studies, U.C. Berkeley, who will examine, through found archival footage, the Danish and Swedish film industries prior to and after World War I. 7:30 p.m. Fort Mason Firehouse, San Francisco. For information contact Humanities West at 415/391-9700.



Mary Ellen Pleasant (1817-1904) is considered the "Mother of Human Rights in California."

**Mar. 13** "Earth, Wind, and Fire: The Process of Culture in Art" is a lecture by Harry Fonseca, Nisenan/Maidu artist, about Coyote and how his Maidu heritage influences his art. 7 p.m. Fleischmann Auditorium, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta del Sol Road. 805/682-4711.

**Mar. 16** "Barbie and Stretch Armstrong: The Metamorphosis of Toys in Play" is a slide-illustrated lecture by anthropologist Louise Krasniewicz about the boundaries that separate dolls from other human-figured toys and how these images articulate Western notions of gender and play. 2 p.m. UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, UCLA campus, Los Angeles. 310/825-4361.



Poet Jean Janzen. Photo by Avo.

**Mar. 18** The CCH "Highway 99: Writers in Conversation Series" features Fresno poet Jean Janzen, author of *Snake in the Parsonage* and other works, in conversation with scholar Carol Zapata-Whelan. 7 p.m. Fresno Art Museum. 2233 North 1st Street. For information, contact Lydia Kuhn at 209/488-3856.



From "The Color of Honor." Japanese American military intelligence linguist Kenneth Uni interrogating a POW during WWII. Photograph courtesy of Vox Productions.

**Mar. 18** "The Color of Honor: The Japanese American Soldier in World War II" is a film and discussion program led by Dr. Diane Fuhjino, assistant professor of Asian American studies at UC Santa Barbara, about the complex experiences of Nisei soldiers during the second world war. Part of the "Celebrating California on Film" series. 7 p.m. Presidio Chapel, Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, 123 East Canon Perdido Street. 805/965-0093.



**Mar. 20** John Johnson, curator of anthropology at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, will discuss the Chumash community. Part of a lecture series coinciding with the opening of the "Ventura County in the New West" exhibit. 7:30 p.m. Ventura County Museum of History & Art, 100 East Main St. Ventura. 805/653-0323

**Mar. 20** The CCH "Highway 99: Writers in Conversation Series" features Chico poet Gary Thompson, author of *As for Living* and other works, in conversation with scholar David Wilson. 7 p.m. Harlan Adams Theater, CSU Chico, West 2nd & Chestnut streets. For more information, contact Linda Thompson at 916/891-2723.



Poet Gary Thompson. Photo by Steve Metzger.

**Mar. 26** "American Odyssey: The U.S. in the Twentieth Century" is a lecture by Gary Nash, professor of history at UCLA Part of the "Intersections: The Search For Common Ground," lecture series, which uses the humanities to explore the future of the California dream and find grounds for unity for an increasingly diverse population. 7 p.m. Creveling Lounge, Campus Center, Pasadena City College campus, 1570 E. Colorado Blvd. Contact Lou Rosenberg at 818/585-7647.



Writer Maxine Hong Kingston. Photo by Jane Scherr, courtesy of UC Berkeley.

**Apr. 5** The CCH "Highway 99: Writers in Conversation Series" features Maxine Hong Kingston, author of *The Woman Warrior* and other works, in conversation with scholar Cheng Lok Chua. 2 p.m. Faye Spanos Concert Hall, University of the Pacific, 3511 Pacific Circle, Stockton. For more information, contact Ken Yamashita at 209/937-8467.



Poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti.

**Apr. 11** "Two Modern Voices" is the kick-off event for the Fourth Annual "Border Voices Poetry Fair." It features poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti and jazz musician Charles McPherson. 7 p.m. Montezuma Hall, San Diego State University. Contact Jack Webb at 619/299-3131 for more information.

**Apr. 11** The CCH "Highway 99: Writers in Conversation Series" features Ernest Finney, author of *Flights in the Heavens* and other works, in conversation with scholars Jim Nicholson, Joni Jordan, Greg Seastrom, and Bill Decker. 7 p.m. College of the Sequoias Theater, 915 South Mooney Boulevard, Visalia. For more information, contact Nancy Finney at 209/730-3824.



Writer Ernest J. Finney. Photo by N.J. Parke.

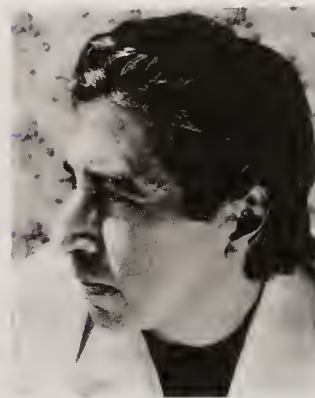
**Apr. 12** "The Fourth Annual Border Voices Poetry Fair" begins in San Diego's Balboa Park at 10 a.m. Along with readings and gallery events, the fair includes an afternoon symposium, "Quality and the Construction of Identity in the American Arts," featuring such poets and scholars as Lawrence Ferlinghetti, U.S. poet laureate Robert Hass, June Jordan, and Sandra Cisneros. Contact Jack Webb at 619/299-3131 for more information.



Writer Sandra Cisneros is one of the "Border Voices Poetry Fair" participants. Photo by H. Cisneros, courtesy of Jack Webb.

**Apr. 18** "Gene Hunters Film and Discussion Program" is the San Diego premier of the BBC film on scientists working on the Human Genome Diversity project and a discussion led by philosopher and bioethicist Dr. Sandra D. Mitchell and geneticist Dr. Linda Mercer. This is the kick-off event for the Margaret Mead Film Festival. 619/942-5827 for exact locations and times.

**Apr. 20** The CCH "Highway 99: Writers in Conversation Series" features Richard Rodriguez, author of *Days of Obligation* and other works, in conversation with historian Kevin Starr, State Librarian of California. 2 p.m. In the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria, Central Library, 9th and I streets, Sacramento. For more information, contact Mary Mijares at 916/264-2770.



Writer Richard Rodriguez.

**Apr. 21** "The Evolution of the American Suburb - Does San Mateo Fit the Mold?" is a lecture by Kenneth Jackson, a leading scholar in urban American history. Held in conjunction with the unveiling of the museum's new interpretive exhibit design. 2 p.m. College of San Mateo. Call Mitch Postel at 415/574-6441 for exact location.

**Apr. 23** "Cultural Pluralism: Campuses, Communities and Commitment" is a lecture by Lourdes Arguelles, professor of gender and feminist studies and Chicano/Latino studies at Pitzer College. Part of the "Intersections: The Search For Common Ground," lecture series. 7 p.m. Creveling Lounge, Campus Center, Pasadena City College campus, 1570 E. Colorado Blvd. Contact Lou Rosenberg at 818/585-7647.

**Apr. 28** The CCH "Highway 99: Writers in Conversation Series" features Gerald Haslam, author of *Coming of Age in California* and other works, in conversation with novelist James Houston. 7 p.m. Kern County Library, 701 Truxton Avenue, Bakersfield. For more information, contact Dee Mooneyham at 805/861-2130.



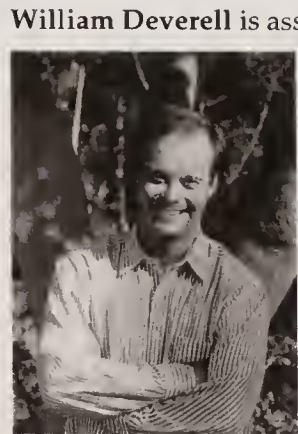
Writer Gerald Haslam. Photo by B.J. Fundaro.



# Humanities News

## William Deverell Elected Council's Newest Member

At its December meeting in Los Angeles, the Council elected William Deverell to the Council board. Deverell begins his three-year term in March.



William Deverell is associate professor of history at the California Institute of Technology and adjunct professor in the history department at UC San Diego, where he chaired the environmental studies program between 1993 and 1995. He is the author of *Railroad Crossing: Californians and the Railroad, 1850-1910* (UC Press, 1994) and co-editor of *California Progressivism Revisited* (UC Press, 1994). He is also the author of numerous papers and articles on aspects of the history of California, particularly southern California, and is currently at work on a book on ethnicity and city growth in modern Los Angeles. Deverell serves as a member of the Center for California Studies advisory board, the board of

directors of the Friends of the Huntington Library, and the Council's California Sesquicentennial advisory committee. He was recently named a visiting fellow at the Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities and was a University of California president's fellow in the humanities from 1995 to 1996. Deverell received his bachelor's degree from Stanford University and his master's and his doctorate from Princeton University.

## Council Will Meet in Riverside in March

The California Council for the Humanities' quarterly meeting will be held at the Mission Inn, 3649 Seventh Street in Riverside on March 6, 7, and 8. Exact times for Council sessions had not been determined as this issue went to press. For additional information, please contact the Council's San Francisco office (415/391-1474).

## Debra Colman Joins Council Staff

Debra Colman has been hired as the Council's new Motherhead coordinator. She joined the staff on November 12, 1996. Motherhead is the Council's family reading program in the Los Angeles area.

Colman has a bachelor's degree in philosophy from CSU Los Angeles and earned a masters of social work from UCLA last June. While pursuing her bachelor's degree, she worked with the Educational Participation in Communities (EPIC) program as a mentor supervisor and was a director of resident relations and social services for SK Management Company. Most recently Colman worked as an intern administrator/counselor for the Neighborhood Youth Association and as an intern counselor at the Western Region Asian Pacific Agency.

Individuals interested in learning more about the Council's Motherhead program can contact Debra Colman in the CCH Los Angeles office at 213/623-5993

## NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes for School Teachers

The National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) Division of Research and Education Programs is offering 34 seminars and institutes for elementary and secondary teachers on a variety of topics. A listing of the 1997 summer institutes and seminars can be obtained by contacting the Division of Research and Education Programs, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20506, 202/606-8463. But PLEASE NOTE: Teachers interested in participating in either a seminar or an institute need to write directly to the project director to request additional information and an application. The deadline for all applications is March 1, 1997.

Participants in Summer Institutes generally have their room, board and supplies paid for by the project and receive an additional stipend. All teachers selected to participate in a Summer Seminar will be awarded a stipend of \$2,450, \$2,825, or \$3,200 (depending on the length of the seminar) to cover travel costs to and from the seminar location, books and other research expenses, and living expenses.

Generally speaking, Americans teaching full time in public, private, and church-affiliated schools are eligible to apply to seminars and institutes. Librarians and school administrators may also be eligible.

## National Humanities Center Summer Institute for High School English Teachers

In the summer of 1997, the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina will sponsor a summer institute for high school English teachers. The institute, "The Writing of African-American Identity: Self, Race, and Gender," provides English teachers with an opportunity to explore the themes of freedom and identity in 12 key works by African American writers. The program runs from June 23 to July 11, 1997.

The National Humanities Center will provide participants with travel expenses, lodging, most meals, texts, and a stipend of \$750.

For an application or more information, contact: Summer Institute Office, National Humanities Center, PO box 12256, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709. 919/549-0661. E-mail: summrins@ga.unc.edu.

The application deadline is March 15, 1997.

## Proposal-Writing Workshops Offered in February

Workshops are scheduled during February for people interested in submitting grant proposals at the Council's April 1 deadline.

### In San Diego

Tuesday, February 11 1 to 3 p.m.  
Room B, Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

### In Los Angeles

Wednesday, February 12 10 a.m. to Noon  
Thursday, February 13 1 to 3 p.m.

### In San Francisco

For Media Project proposals

Tuesday, February 18 1 to 2:30 p.m.

For Public Project proposals

Thursday, February 13 10 to 11:30 a.m.

The workshops are free, but advance registration is required. Please call the nearest Council Office (619/232-4020 in San Diego; 213/623-5993 in Los Angeles; and 415/391-1474 in San Francisco) to register and to confirm dates and locations. Please also request and read the *Guide to the Grant Program 1997-1999* before attending the workshop.



Faithful friend, Mocha, and Brian Devine

## Brian Devine Joins Council Staff

Brian Devine has been hired as the Council's new fiscal administrator. He joined the staff on December 16. The fiscal administrator oversees the Council's accounting functions and the financial aspects of the Council's competitive grants program.

Until accepting the position with the Council, Devine worked as the accounting manager at the Gay & Lesbian Medical Association in San Francisco. He has also held positions as finance and administration manager of the California Democratic Party, business manager for the San Francisco Food Bank, and budget analyst and government contract compliance administrator for Project Open Hand.

Brian Devine can be reached in the Council's San Francisco office at 415/391-1474.

## Internships Available

The Council has a number of internship opportunities available for undergraduate and graduate students in humanities disciplines. These opportunities exist in all three of the Council's offices. Interested students should contact Amy Rouillard in the San Diego office (619/232-4020), Debra Colman in the Los Angeles office (213/623-5993), or Alden Mudge in the San Francisco office (415/391-1474).

## NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes for College and University Faculty

The National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) Division of Research and Education Programs is also offering 25 seminars and institutes on a variety of topics for college and university faculty members. A listing of the 1997 summer institutes and seminars can be obtained by contacting the Division of Research and Education Programs, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20506, 202/606-8463. But PLEASE NOTE: Faculty members interested in participating in either a seminar or an institute need to write directly to the project director to request additional eligibility information and an application. The deadline for all applications is March 1, 1997.

Participants in Summer Institutes generally have their room, board and supplies paid for by the project and receive an additional stipend. Participants in Summer Seminars will be awarded a stipend between \$2,450 and \$4,000 (depending on the length of the seminar) to cover travel costs to and from the seminar location, books and other research expenses, and living expenses.

For detailed eligibility requirements, applicants should consult the written application materials. Selection committees for seminars and institutes are directed to give first consideration to applicants with heavy undergraduate teaching loads and those who have not participated in an NEH-supported seminar or institute in the last three years.



# Humanities News

*We gratefully acknowledge these donors for their gifts and pledges recorded September 5, 1996 to January 6, 1997.*

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**HUMANITIES**



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The humanities explore human histories, cultures and values. They inform the conversations that are vital to a thriving democracy. They constitute our most important human inheritance.

The purpose of the California Council for the Humanities is to create a state in which all Californians have lifelong access to this shared inheritance. The Council is governed by a volunteer board drawn from leaders in public and academic life. It is an independent state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and operates as a public-private partnership rather than a government agency.

The Council creates and supports public humanities programs throughout California. These include California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA), which provides administrative support and a means for sharing exhibits among members of a statewide network of small museums; Motherhead, a family reading program in Los Angeles; Humanities Online, a world wide web project providing scholar-led discussions via e-mail and hypertextual links to cultural calendars and humanities resources of interest to the online community; publications distributed to libraries, scholars, and the public; and, in 1997, "Highway 99: A Literary Journey," a first-ever, large-scale public exploration of writers and writing from California's Great Central Valley.

The Council also conducts a competitive grants program. Since 1975, it has awarded nearly \$13 million to over 1,700 non-profit organizations, enabling them to produce exhibits, film and radio programs, and lecture series and conferences on topics significant to Californians.

The Council is an independent, not-for-profit organization. It is supported by grants from NEH, corporations and foundations, and by contributions from individuals. It receives no state funds.

Major grant proposals are due on April 1 and October 1. Quick grants—proposal planning grants, minigrants, and film-and-speaker grants—are accepted on the first day of each month. Interested non-profit organizations should request a copy of the Guide to the Grant Program from the San Francisco office.

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Proposals must conform to the 1997-1999 *Guide to the Grant Program*. Send 15 copies to the San Francisco office by the due date.

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